

A New Seed Inhabiting Cerambycid from Costa Rica
(Coleoptera)

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The number of known seed-infesting Cerambycidae is relatively small considering the great potential for larval development this habitat provides. In North America, *Paratimia conicola* Fisher lives in the cones of *Pinus attenuata* and *P. bolanderi* (Craighead, 1923; Linsley, 1962); *Ataxia sulcata* Fall and *Leptostylus terraecolor* Horn in the seeds of *Rhizophora mangle* (Craighead, 1923); *Leptostylus gibbulosus* Bates in seeds of *Sapindus* (Vogt, 1949). In Latin America, seed-infestors include *Lepturges spermophagus* Fisher in Cowpea, *Vigna* (Fisher, 1917); *Baryssinus leguminicola* Linell in *Enterolobium* (Gilmour, 1965 has synonymized this species under *Lophopoeum timbouvae* Lamere which is known to infest seeds of various legumes as listed by Duffy, 1960); *Leptostylus gundlachi* Fisher in pods of coralbean, *Erythrina glauca* (Wolcott, 1948); and *Lepturges guadeloupensis* Fleutiaux and Sallé has been reported from pods of *Acacia* by Wolcott (1948).

The following new species, reared from *Diospyros* fruits by P. A. Opler, was made available by D. H. Janzen and is described at this time to make the name available for other studies. The illustration was prepared by Celeste Green. This study was conducted during the course of National Science Foundation Grant GB-31120X.

***Leptostylus spermovoratis* Chemsak, new species**

(Fig. 1)

MALE.—Form moderate sized, robust, convex above; ground color reddish brown, apex of abdomen dark; pubescence dense, short, appressed, mottled whitish-brown and black; elytra with a broadly triangular black chevron behind middle. Head with front shallowly convex, subquadrate, deeply impressed between antennal tubercles; antennal tubercles elevated, divergent; punctation obscured by pubescence; pubescence mottled, front mostly dark; eyes moderately coarsely faceted, deeply emarginate, separated above by more than diameter of antennal scape; mouthparts and base of labrum with a few long erect hairs; antennae a little longer than body, basal segments mottled with dark brown, segments from fifth pale, dark annulate at apices, scape extending to about middle of pronotum, third segment slightly arcuate, longer than first, fourth slightly shorter than first, remaining segments gradually decreasing in length. Pronotum broader than long, sides slightly inflated; base broadly impressed, apex more narrowly impressed; disk with five prominent tubercles, punctures around

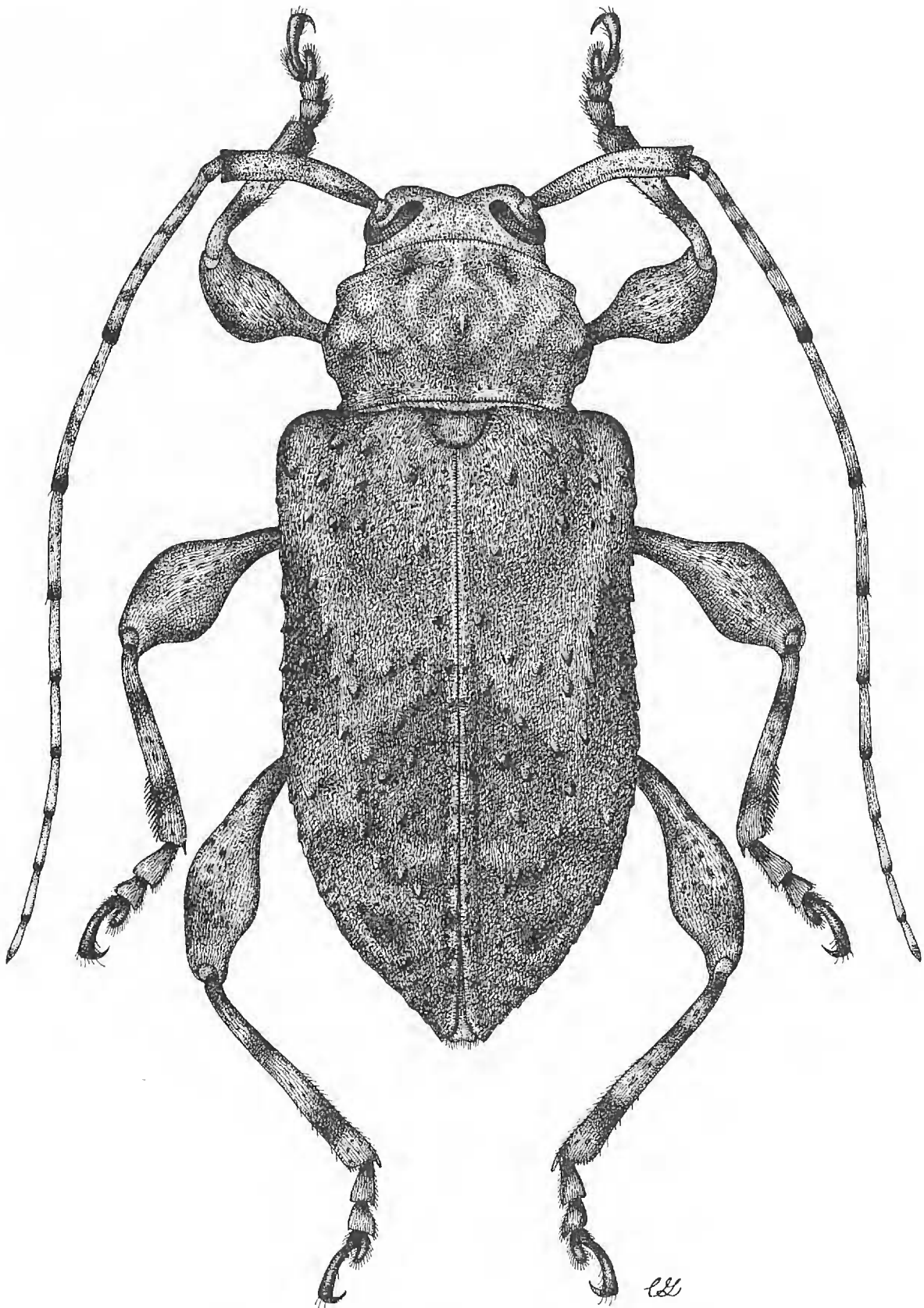


FIG. 1. *Leptostylus spermovoratis* Chemsak, ♂.

tubercles irregular, base with a line of coarse punctures; pubescence gray-brown, appressed, black basally at sides and middle and at apex on each side of middle; prosternum narrow, intercoxal process narrower than width of coxa, expanded behind, coxal cavities closed; mesosternal process broad, abruptly

declivous in front, middle coxae with small tubercles internally; scutellum black, triangular, rounded behind, sparsely pubescent. Elytra less than twice as long as broad, tapering apically, broader than pronotum; disk with semi-circular elevated ridges at base on each side of scutellum, ridges bearing elevated black pubescent tubercles, dark pubescent tubercles scattered over surface but forming a broad triangle behind middle; pubescence mottled, sides with a dark band extending down humeri to middle; apices narrow, truncate. Legs robust, femora clavate, pale and brown mottled; tibiae each with two dark bands. Abdomen densely pale pubescent at sides, sparsely pubescent at middle; last sternite dark, sparsely pubescent, truncate at apex. Length, 10 mm.

FEMALE.—Form similar. Antennae slightly shorter. Abdomen with last sternite rounded at apex. Length, 10–12 mm.

Holotype male, allotype and two paratypes (1 male, 1 female) from COMELCO, BAGACES, GUANACASTE, COSTA RICA, emerged from *Diospyros* fruits on 8 January 1971 (P. A. Opler).

The type series varies little in coloration and the elytral pattern of all the specimens is quite similar.

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